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Northern Region News

A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees

ISSUE 6

June 1996

Isolated Population Of Limber Pine Studied in Custer NF

by Lars Halstrom,
East Zone Genetics Coordinator,
Gallatin NF SO, Bozeman, Montana



Limber Pine Research Natural Area. Photo by Angela Evenden

Custer National Forest Silviculturist Chuck Mark, Beartooth RD, Red Lodge, MT, wanted to know in 1995 if an isolated population of limber pine, (*P. flexilis*), in southwestern North Dakota was a natural stand or one established by early peoples. Archaeological studies suggest that this population may have been seeded, by accident or on purpose, by Indians camping in this area.

A study plan has been developed by Dr. Valerie Hipkins, assistant manager at the Electrophoresis Laboratory in California. The study will include genetic evaluations of populations in the limber pine Research Natural Area, Medora RD, Custer NF, in southwestern North Dakota; a Black Hills stand in Custer State Park, near Mt. Rushmore in South Dakota; the nearest other isolated population, near Terry, MT; and from two populations of the continuous range of limber pine in the Crazy Mountains on the Big Timber (Montana) RD, Gallatin NF; and from the Pryor Mountains on the Beartooth RD, Custer NF, Red Lodge, MT.

Dormant vegetative buds will be collected from selected trees and analyzed for 25 enzyme loci. Genetic structure and diversity measures will be calculated. Comparisons will be made between the three isolated stands and the populations from the continuous range. The number of founders and location of the founding population in the North Dakota stand, and

Genetic Study

possibly the other isolated stands, will be determined. After laboratory analyses are completed, Dr. George Howe, R-1 regional geneticist, will recommend management options for these isolated populations.

The isolated stand in the Research Natural Area, is adjacent to the Little Missouri River, in the Little Missouri Badlands. This isolated stand covers approximately 30 acres. The stand age is about 240 years. However, one study

suggests the age of the stand to be 600 years old. From increment borings used to map age distribution patterns, it appears that this stand has a single point of origin. Limber pine is an endangered plant in North Dakota.

Limber pine is similar to whitebark pine, another 5-needle pine. The Clark's nutcracker is responsible for clustered growth forms of both species. Tree ages can reach up to 1,200 years for whitebark pine and 1,500 years for limber pine in the upper treeline sites. However, at the lower treeline sites of limber pine in the Great Plains it is rare to find them over 200 years old, probably due to fire frequencies.

Both species are attacked by white pine blister rust, an introduced disease from Europe. The Coeur d'Alene Tree Nursery is currently screening trees for genetic resistance to this disease in western white pine. The nursery is just getting started with screening of whitebark pine for resistance to blister rust. Limber pine is more susceptible than either whitebark or western white pine.

Sandpoint Volunteers Recognized, Honored For Equal Access Work

They worked hundreds of hours without a paycheck. But Noel and Shelley Newhouse were not expecting one. Noel and Shelley are a Sandpoint couple who are one of the Idaho Panhandle NFs' many volunteers who give of their time, talents and intelligence.

Recently they were honored at a surprise award presentation.

The two received the National Volunteers Award from Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas. The Chief sent a cassette tape on which he personally congratulated and thanked the Newhouses for all their volunteer hours.

"Your service is commendable and you exemplify what the Forest Service stands for, 'Caring for the Land and Serving People'," Thomas said. Along with the cassette tape, the Newhouses received a letter (in braille) and a beautiful plaque signed by the Chief. A plaque in braille will also be given to them.

Noel and Shelley are both blind. Their expert contribution to the Idaho Panhandle National Forests' (IPNFs) accessibility com-

by Terri VanGundy, Information Receptionist, Sandpoint (Idaho) RD, Idaho Panhandle NFs.

mittee helped in the development of the "Guide to Accessible Meeting, Lodging and Dining Facilities" booklet. The guide booklet is to be printed this summer.

"We did it because we like the people we worked with and we thought it was important," Shelley explained. She was surprised by the award announcement.

Randy Wakefield, former disability program manager for the IPNFs, nominated the couple through the IPNFs' Human Equality Advancement Resource Team (HEART). Wakefield and the Newhouses, along with other volunteers and members of the disability committee, conducted the year-long inventory of hotels, motels, lodges and restaurants, stretching from Bonners Ferry to St. Maries.

"The Forest has a lot of people who transfer," Wakefield said. "Whether they're disabled or whether their family members are



Shelley and Noel Newhouse received the Forest Service's National Volunteers Award from Chief Jack Ward Thomas for their volunteer efforts in the study of disability assess issues in North Idaho. They are pictured with Randy Wakefield (right), former disability program manager for the Idaho Panhandle NFs.

Photo by Jamie Kelley, courtesy of the BONNER COUNTY (Idaho) DAILY BEE.

disabled, they need to know which areas are accessible. Up to this point, it's been kind of hit or miss. It just makes it very, very difficult."

The Newhouses were also very helpful when the disability committee did a two-year inventory of the campground accessibility needs on the IPNFs. They are very giving people and the Forest Service is fortunate to have them as volunteers. Jack Ward Thomas thinks so and so do the folks who have worked with them.



Historic Log Barn at Moose Creek Ranger Station, Nez Perce NF.

Photo by Jim Heid

The Moose Creek Ranger District of the Nez Perce National Forest was recently recognized by the Idaho State Historic Preservation Council for historic restoration and stabilization work on the log barn and fire cache building at the wilderness ranger station.

Moose Creek RD received the Council's "Orchid Award", the State of Idaho's highest recognition for excellence in all fields of historic preservation.

The R-1 Historic Preservation Team and Nez Perce NF Archaeologist Ali Abusaidi were also recognized for this important historic preser-

vation work. (See the story in the May issue of THE NORTHERN REGION NEWS.)

In June 1995, the Moose Creek RD and Forest Heritage Staff, assisted by the R-1 Historic Preservation Team, did restoration and stabilization work on the log barn and fire cache building. The work included replacement of the handsplit cedar shakes and porch supports on the fire cache and the complex task of raising the top plate log on the barn. All of the work was done with primitive, hand tools.

This unique, historical ranger station is on the National Register of Historic Places. It is

State of Idaho Recognizes Restoration, Stabilization Work at Moose Creek RS

by Cindy Schacher, Archaeological Technician, Nez Perce National Forest Headquarters, Grangeville, Idaho



located at the confluence of the Selway River and Moose Creek, in the heart of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

Construction of the Moose Creek Ranger Station began in 1921 to accommodate crews for trail and phone line maintenance and fire suppression.

The first structure at the station was built by Ranger Jack Parsell. The log building served as a cookhouse, office, and residence. As Forest Service operations and work forces expanded, additional structures were added. The ranger station and its beautiful log buildings remain in use today. They are vital to the operation of the remote Moose Creek District.

The stabilization work on these buildings enables their continued use and allows visitors to experience the culture and history of the early Forest Service. The Moose Creek District is commended on their commitment to the maintenance and long-term preservation of the Moose Creek Ranger Station.



Nancy Campbell tells a workshop group about her work as an entomologist.

R-1 Women Speakers At Career Workshops On Math & Science

More than 400 students, grades 6 through 9, attended the April 19 "Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics" career conference, focusing on young women.

The students came to the one-day conference at the Hellgate Middle School (just west of Missoula) from Ronan, Troy, Trout Creek, Superior, Lincoln and the Missoula School District.

Objectives of the conference were to increase young women's interest in mathematics and science; foster awareness of career opportunities for women in math and science related fields; and provide opportunities for students to meet and talk with women working in non-traditional careers.

Six Forest Service women from the Lolo NF and the Regional headquarters participated in some of the 18 workshops that ranged from medicine, military, law and meteorology to architecture, pharmacy, entomology and engineering.

Bev Young, engineering, RO, served with a five-woman team focusing on environmental engineering opportunities in a workshop on "Environmental Vibrations."

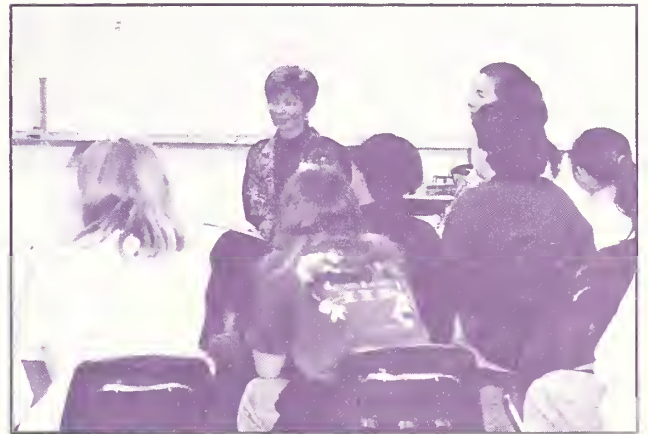
Mary Hortsman, historian, and Kristin

Whisenand, archeology technician, both from the Lolo NF SO, conducted a history-archeology workshop on "People Puzzles."

Nancy Campbell, entomologist, RO Forest & Rangeland Management, was one of three scientists conducting a workshop on "Plant Parts & Critters."

Linda Ulmer, fisheries biologist, RO Ecosystem Assessment and Planning, and Leaf Magnuson, information assistant, Lolo NF SO, at a workshop on "Wild Work," talked with the students about career opportunities for aquatic scientists.

Mary Horstman (right) and Kristin Whisenand (wearing cap) conduct a history-archeology workshop on "People Puzzles."



Beverly Young RO Engineering, talks with students at the "Environmental Vibrations" workshop about her work in environmental health engineering.



Fisheries biologist Linda Ulmer, RO Ecosystem Assessment and Planning, tells students about the importance of math and science in her field of work.

Outdoor Education

Birch Creek Center Growing, Serving Educators, Students

by Jack de Golia, Public Affairs
Officer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge
National Forests

Imagine 1,000 kids discovering an outdoor classroom they didn't know existed in their own backyard! This isn't a futuring exercise, it's what we fully expect to see in the coming year at the Birch Creek Outdoor Education Center, north of Dillon.

From a few Butte teachers in 1990, bringing their classes to Birch Creek to do *Project Wild* activities, Birch Creek now serves schools in Dillon, Butte, and most recently, Bozeman.

Birch Creek Center began as a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp in the mid 30s. Later, the CCC dormitories became a church camp. For the last decade, the Beaverhead National Forest has leased the site to Western Montana College of the University of Montana (WMC).

In the late 1980s, WMC built an all-weather conference building, the Bender Center, at the site. The Anaconda Job Corps helped do the work.

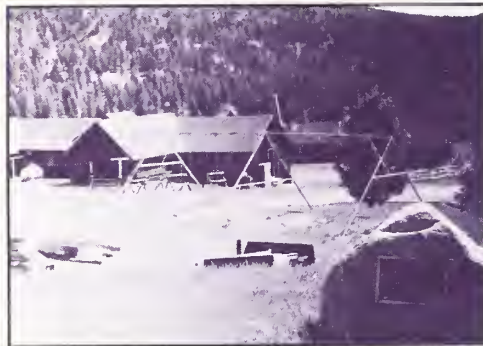
Set in the foothills of the East Pioneer Mountains, the center provides easy field study access to forest, rangeland, stream, valley bottom, high elevation, and historic sites.

From 1990 to 1993, a few dozen elementary students came to Birch Creek in May for some outdoor learning. Their teachers were those already accustomed to teaching in the outdoors, but even so, most teachers didn't have time to learn of places to hike and so stayed close to the Birch Creek buildings.

The program's upturn started in 1993, thanks to two successive grants from the Natural Resource Conservation Education Program (NRCEP). This money, matched by WMC, paid for an outdoor education specialist to develop a Birch Creek curriculum.

This year, when the Beaverhead Forest didn't get a third grant, the Forest Leadership Team decided to contribute money from the Forest budget to keep the development work going.

First Jill Nishball, of Arcata, California, then the last two years, Susan Dejmaj, from Bozeman, developed a site-specific Birch



National Register of Historic Places marker and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) dormitories at Birch Creek Education Center.



Students, Instructors at Birch Creek Center. Photos by Jack de Golia, Public Affairs Officer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs.

Creek curriculum, that takes teachers beyond the general, do-anywhere activities from the national curricula, like *Project Wild* and others, and takes students and teachers into half-day modules devoted to studies of forests, riparian areas, rangelands, and more!

Now, WMC has moved the Birch Creek program into a new phase. Determined to make the center self-supporting, campus Chancellor Sheila Stearns has named Susan Dejmaj as the center's new director. Susan will now look for ways to "fill the beds" at Birch Creek.

The hope is that with college summer field study groups, elderhostels, business and government meetings and conferences, as well as weddings and family reunions, the summer income can more than offset the expenses of running an affordable program for elementary and secondary schools in the fall and spring months. **For more information, contact WMC at (406) 683-7537 or write to Birch Creek Director, WMC Box 100, 710 S. Atlantic Street, Dillon, MT 59725.**

Seabees Build Foot Bridges At Birch Creek

by Jack de Golia, Public Affairs
Officer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge
National Forests

Twenty U.S. Navy "Seabees," members of the 18th Naval Mobile Construction Battalion's Detachment 1718, came to Birch Creek, north of Dillon, MT, May 3-6 to build some bridges.

The foot bridges will allow school children coming to Western Montana College's Birch Creek Center to safely cross the creek to reach a pond where they study the water and the insect life in the pond.

The Dillon RD, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, provided the materials for the bridges. The Seabees did the work.

Food for the Seabees came from a variety of donations and grants. Money to feed the hard-working Naval reservists was donated by the Montana Environmental Education Association, State Bank and Trust of Dillon, and Co-op Supply of Dillon. Food donations came from Great Harvest Bread and Dillon's Safeway and IGA stores.

Western Montana College housed the reservists in the Birch Creek Center Bunk-houses.

According to Petty Officer First Class Jack Babon, the enlisted officer in command, the Seabees look forward to more projects in National Forests.

"We do construction work, usually behind the front lines. But we have to be ready to drop our hammers and shovels and grab our weapons in a split second. This training exercise helped us sharpen both our construction and fighting skills," Babon said.

And, he noted, the Seabees enjoyed working in the superb outdoor setting.

When not commanding the Seabee unit, Babon works as a civilian for the Army Reserve at Fort Missoula.

"We were delighted to have the help," said Barry Hicks, Dillon District District

"Petty Officer Second Class John Wendt, a Seabee reservist from Lima, and an em-

Navy Reserve



U.S. Navy Seabee Reservists (18th Naval Mobile Construction Battalion's Detachment No. 1718) building foot bridges at the Birch Creek Center, Dillon RD, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs.

Photos by Jack de Golia, Public Affairs Officer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs.

ployee of the Bureau of Reclamation, came to us looking for a work project. That fit perfectly with our need to get small foot bridges in at Birch Creek, to make it safer for kids cross the creeks in high water," Hicks said.

Elementary and secondary students come to the Birch Creek Center in the spring and fall to study the area's forests, streams, wildlife, and range lands. They use the "Pioneering Discoveries" curriculum, developed by Susan Dejmal, Western Montana College's Birch Creek Director.

"Not only will these bridges help us in the spring and fall, but also in the summer, when we have students of all ages at Birch Creek," Dejmal said.

For more information about the Birch Creek Center, telephone Dejmal at (406) 683-7891.

11,700 Boating Applications For 1,056 Permits on 4 Rivers

*by Linda L. King, West Fork RD,
Bitterroot NF, Darby, Montana*

The Selway River is designated as a "wild river" in the National Wild & Scenic River System. It begins in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and flows north through the heart of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

The Selway is managed for its wilderness values by permitting one launch per day from May 15 through July 31, with only 16 people allowed per launch. There are 78 launches per year: 62 allotted to private floaters and 16 allotted to three outfitters. The Selway River had a total of 3,669 user days for the 1995 permitted season.

Permits to float the Selway, Snake (Hells Canyon), Middle Fork and Main Salmon rivers are allocated through a single lottery system. An applicant can submit one form, between December 1 and January 31, to any of the four administrative offices:

—**SELWAY RIVER**, West Fork Ranger District, 6735 West Fork Road, Darby, MT 59829.

—**MIDDLE FORK SALMON**, Middle Fork Ranger District, P.O. Box 750, Challis, ID 83226.

—**MAIN SALMON**, North Fork Ranger District, P.O. Box 180, North Fork, ID 83466.

—**SNAKE RIVER**, Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, P.O. Box 699, Clarkston, WA 99403.



Barry Miller, River Ranger, Moose Creek RD, Nez Perce NF, on the Selway River, a Wild River in the National Wild & Scenic River System.

All four rivers are covered by one application. This gives an applicant the opportunity to draw a permit for one or more rivers with that single application.

There were more than 11,700 applications in 1996 for 1,056 permits on all four rivers.

The Selway had 2,547 applications with a 27:1 chance of drawing a permit. The Middle Fork of the Salmon had 8,519 applicants with a chance of 20:1. The Main Salmon had 3,546 applicants with a chance of 5:1 and the Snake had 2,122 applicants with a chance of 3:1. Applications came from 49 states, Washington DC and five foreign countries.

RETIREES INVITED To Leadership Meeting at Kelly Forks

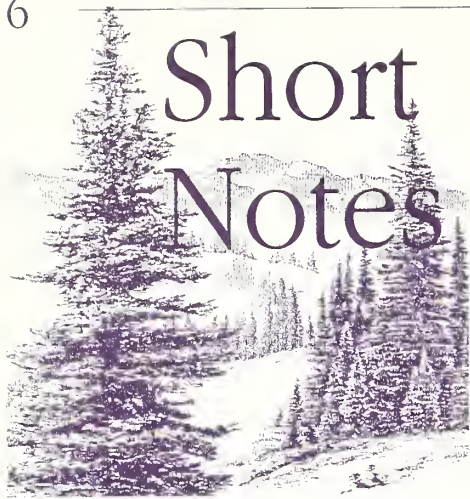
Clearwater National Forest Supervisor James L. Caswell has alerted all R-1 retirees that they are invited to join the Northern Region Leadership Team meeting, Wednesday, Aug. 7, and Thursday, Aug. 8, at Kelly Forks, on the Clearwater River, Clearwater NF.

Regional Forester Hal Salwasser and his Leadership Team would like

to spend parts of both days with R-1 retirees.

There will be dinner and discussion at 4:00 p.m. PDT on Wednesday (Aug. 7) and breakfast and discussion the next day until 10:00 a.m. PDT, Thursday, Aug. 8.

For additional details, telephone Lin Chamberlin, Clearwater NF SO, Orofino, Idaho, (208) 476-4541.



Short Notes

slumps.

CORRAL HILL TIMBER SALE, Clearwater RD, Nez Perce NF, environmental assessment (EA) is available for public review and comment. The sale would harvest 472 thousand board feet of timber on 16 acres adjacent to the Corral Hill fire lookout, 14 miles northeast of Grangeville, ID. Copies of the EA are available at the Ranger Station, Rt. 2 Box 475, Grangeville, ID 83530, telephone (208) 983-1963. Purpose of the timber sale is to increase visibility around the lookout. Vegetation is obstructing the view for detection and reporting wildfires.

TRAIL CREEK TIMBER SALE PROPOSAL released for public comment. The option proposal is outlined in a draft "supplemental environmental impact statement" (SEIS). The alternative would harvest 641 acres in 31 units, providing 4.9 million board feet of timber. Wisdom District Ranger Dennis Havig said public comments will be accepted at Wisdom RD, Box 238, Wisdom, MT, 59761, telephone (406) 689-3243.

FOREST SERVICE REUNION '96, Sept. 9-11, Park City, Utah. For details, write or phone George Roether, 2790 Buchanan Ave., Ogden, UT 84403, telephone (801) 393-1529.

PACK/SADDLE STOCK USE RESTRICTED ON SELWAY RIVER TRAIL (No. 004) in the Bitterroot NF portion of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness until further notice. Heavy windfall accumulations and associated tread damage make travel with stock impossible (unsafe). Work was surveyed in April. A crew will begin clearing operations after the road accessing the area is cleared of snow. It is expected it will be early July before the trail between Magruder Guard Station and Thompson Flat will be open for travel.

FEES ANNOUNCED for 182 R-1 campgrounds and 44 group sites this summer. Fees will also be charged at some picnic and boat-launch sites. Daily fees range from \$4 to \$10 for a single family unit. The minimum fee for group site reservations is \$25.

SKIER VISITS DOWN 80,607 (9%) in 1995-96 season at 13 winter recreation areas in the Northern Region. Unfavorable exchange rates for Canadian skiers and poor weather and snow conditions on some holiday weekends contributed to the decline.

ROAD TO COOLIDGE GHOST TOWN WASHED OUT: It is closed until further notice, reports Wise River (Montana) District Ranger Ed Levert, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs. Spring runoff caused ma-

jor damage to the Lower Elhorn Mine Road, south of Wise River. The road is completely washed out near Mono Campground.

ROADS A MESS IN SOUTH END OF MADISON VALLEY, reports Madison District Ranger Mark Petroni, Ennis, MT, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF. Rain and melting snow have turned roads into a mess at the south end of the Madison Valley, especially near Wade, Cliff, and Elk lakes. "Roads in the southeast Gravelly Range are washing out faster than we can fix them right now. We need the public's help to keep things from being worse than Mother Nature is making them," explained Madison County Commissioner Ted Coffman.

BLOWN-DOWN TREES IN FRENCH GULCH TO BE SALVAGED. About 50,000 board feet of blown-down trees in French Gulch, 18 miles northwest of Deer Lodge, MT, would be salvaged under a Forest Service proposal. The timber harvest will be done under provisions of the 1995 Reversion Act (Public Law 104-19). The proposal calls for using existing roads and not building any new ones to reach the fallen timber.

BERG SALVAGE TIMBER SALE Environmental Analysis alternative No. 2 to be implemented, Nez Perce NF Supervisor Coy G. Jemmett announced in May. The sale calls for the harvesting an estimated 8.2 million board feet of trees from 1,924 acres, under Section 2001 of Public Law 104-19. For details about the project, contact District Ranger Jack Carlson, Salmon River RD, Nez Perce NF, White Bird, ID 83554; telephone (208) 839-2211.

FIXING OLD MINE HAZARDS: Deer Lodge RD, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, is planning ways to make old mine shafts, trenches and other hazards safe, near the West Fork of Warm Springs Creek, six miles northeast of Georgetown Lake, in Granite County, Montana. The plans call for fencing, backfilling, or placing grates over openings. Comments should be sent to the Deer Lodge RD office (91 N. Frontage Road, Deer Lodge, Montana 59722; telephone 406/846-1770) by June 21.

GALLATIN NF TOPS IN R-1 RECREATION VISITS IN 1995 with 3,954,000 recreation visitor days (RVD) and 4,093,000 recreation visits (RV). The Gallatin NF is followed by Idaho Panhandle NFs, 2,534,500 RVD and 3,610,000 RV; Kootenai NF with 1,617,900 RVD and 5,045 RV; Bitterroot NF with 1,264,100 RVD and 3,792,000 RV; Deerlodge NF 1,257,700 RVD and 2,144,200 RV.

ANNUAL SAVENAC REUNION, Friday, July 26, Superior Ranger District, Lolo NF. The historic tree nursery is at Haugan, MT, on Interstate 90. Registration 9:00 to 11:00. Short program at 11:00. Potluck at 12:30. For program details, telephone Superior RD: (406) 822-4233. District is working with West End Community Action Network to open the administration building as a visitor center to dispense Forest information. Main thrust is to tell the history of the nursery.

SLIDES CLOSE SELWAY RIVER ROAD (NO. 223) at the O-Hara Bridge, Selway RD, Nez Perce NF. Rains have delayed the removal of the slides and repairing of the damage. For information about when the road will open, telephone the Selway RD (Fenn Ranger Station), Kooskia, ID, (208) 926-4258. Numerous mud slides and downed trees have blocked the Meadow Creek trail (No. 726). It is closed to stock and motorized use; travel by foot is not recommended. Contact Paul Christensen, Selway Ranger Station, for details.

STOP AT THE DEER LODGE (MT) RANGER STATION, next time your travels take you along Interstate 90. Take the northernmost of the two freeway exits at Deer Lodge. In the Ranger Station reception area you can enjoy a display of Forest Service padlocks, some quite unique (with pine tree). Most of them show signs of blasting, hacking or other attacks. It is a quick trip into a bit of Forest Service history and a look at the life we ask our padlocks to lead.

NORTH SHORE GIBSON RESERVOIR TRAIL improvement project completed, Rocky Mountain RD, Lewis & Clark NF. The \$300,000 reconstruction job on Trail No. 201 began in April 1994 to make the trail safer for foot and livestock use. Work included widening the trailbed, installation of retaining walls to stabilize the trail in places, improvement of existing meeting lanes, construction of new meeting lanes, and relocation of trail around existing

Volunteers on Big Prairie



Wilderness Ranger Kendra Mills (right) with three volunteers on a cold and rainy two-day trip to the Big Prairie Work Center in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Flathead NF. With their horses and mules, the volunteers are (left to right) Angie Davis, Meredith Cooley and Dave Max. The volunteers assist with wilderness visitor contact work, facility maintenance, resupplying, trail maintenance, stewardship monitoring and a variety of other tasks. Max grew up in Philadelphia and now lives in Missoula working with the developmentally disabled. Davis and Cooley have at times been on the Forest Service payroll. They now work in the wilderness as volunteers.

Photo by Boyd Malloy

Kings Hill Video

BEST IN NATION

At a May meeting of the National Leadership Team in Washington, D.C., **Gene Colling**, audio visual production specialist, RO Public Affairs Office, received the American Recreation Coalition's award for the 1996 Best of the Byways Award for the Best Scenic Byway Video, "Kings Hill Scenic Byway." American Recreation Coalition is a Washington-based, non-profit group organized to catalyze public/private partnerships to enhance and protect outdoor recreation opportunities and the resources upon which such experiences are based.

Associate Chief Dave Unger presented the award to Colling. The award was announced by the Recreation Coalition at the April Scenic Byway Conference in Washington. There are now more than 120 routes in the National Forest Scenic Byways Program. The Kings Hill Scenic Byway takes you through the Kings Hill RD in central Montana. It covers 65 miles between White Sulphur Springs to a point near Belt, MT. Filmed and produced by Colling, the Kings Hill Scenic Byway video is available on loan through the Forest Service Video Library, c/o Audience Planners, Inc., 5341 Derry Ave. Suite Q, Agoura Hills, CA, 91301; telephone (800) 683-8366.



GENE COLLING, RO Public Affairs Office, accepts the American Recreation Coalition's "1996 Best of the Byways Award" in Washington, D.C. for his "Kings Hill Scenic Byway" video, from Associate Chief David G. Unger.

Lavendel Deputy Supervisor For Gifford Pinchot NF, R-6

Claire M. Lavendel has been selected as deputy supervisor for the 1.3-million-acre Gifford Pinchot NF, headquartered in Vancouver, Washington.

A 16-year veteran with the Forest Service, Lavendel has been district ranger for the Sandpoint RD since 1989. She reported to her new post in June.

A native of Chicago, she is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley

(1980). After five years on the Targhee NF, R-4, in recreation and timber jobs, she was assigned to the Lewis & Clark NF in Montana where she worked in timber, watershed and special use positions.

For three years, 1986-1989, Lavendel served in the Forest Service's National Forest headquarters in Washington, D.C., before she was named Sandpoint District Ranger.



Claire M. Lavendel

Homestead Cabin On Rock Creek, Lolo NF, Restored

by Leaf Magnuson, Information
Assistant, Missoula Ranger District,
Lolo National Forest

The Hogback Homestead Cabin, on the upper Rock Creek, about 25 miles southwest of Missoula, on the Missoula RD, is the newest addition to the Lolo NF's cabin and lookout rental program.

Hogback Cabin provides renters the flavor of the lifestyle of Montana homesteaders of the early 1900s. The back entrance and the entire ground floor are adapted for wheelchair accessibility.

In 1913, Charles Gerhart established a homestead at the confluence of Hogback and Rock Creeks. He built the cabin in 1917. Over the years, the combination of flat ground, moderate elevation and sunny aspect made the cabin an inviting place for miners, American Indians and other families that followed. Not a simple cabin, it was designed as a permanent home.

The Missoula RD began restoration work on the cabin in 1990. The years had taken their toll. It was dilapidated and needed a new roof.

Hogback Homestead Cabin in October 1993.



Restoration Crew and volunteers started work on restoration of the Hogback Homestead Cabin in the summer and fall of 1990. Left to right: Gene Thompson, Jack Fisher, Dave Michaels, Jim Askins and half of Rob Holden.

Photos by Missoula RD, Lolo NF

Replacement logs were hand hewn to meet authenticity requirements of the Northern Region's Historic Preservation Team. Many hours and days of volunteer labor and generous donations from businesses and organizations made the restoration possible. Internal restoration work and archaeological excavations were done as Partners in Time projects. The restoration was completed in September of 1995.

The shopping team traded and bargained to get historical furnishings like vintage

double beds, a wardrobe, a handmade plank table, and a 1932 calendar. The Missoula Smokejumpers made the canvas curtains for the living room. With advice from an interior designer, the heritage house now has the appearance and feel that the last occupants enjoyed at Hogback.

In the living room there is an old hutch. In a drawer we keep the Hogback Journal. On the first 3 pages you'll find ghosts left by a son of that family. Maybe you will leave a ghost in the journal this year?



Kathleen A. McAllister Deputy Regional Forester

Kathleen A. McAllister, Forest Supervisor of the Superior NF, Duluth, Minnesota, has been named Northern Region deputy regional forester for resources. She will report to her new assignment in Missoula in mid-July.

Born in Pittsburgh, PA, McAllister grew up in Tuscon, Arizona, and holds a degree in forest management from Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff.

A veteran of 21 years with the Forest Service, McAllister worked on the Coronado, Tonto, Monongahela, Nicolet and Mark Twain NFs before she was named supervisor of the Superior NF in 1992.

Her husband, Martin McAllister, operates an archaeological consulting firm. She is a member of the Society of American Foresters.

Kathleen A. McAllister

Clearwater T-Shirts Benefit Flood Victims

by Kathy Thompson,
Clearwater National Forest
Orofino, Idaho



The Clearwater NF SO Employee Association recently presented a \$1,427.78 check to the Clearwater County Flood Relief fund. Pictured (l to r) are County Commissioner Bud Bonner; Commissioner Earl Pickett; Employee Association members Vicki Brown and Carol Smith; and County Commission Chairman Jim Wilson.

Photo by Nancy Butler, THE CLEARWATER TRIBUNE.

The February floods in Clearwater County stirred up more than mud. They stirred up feelings of helplessness as people watched the powerful waters take homes and possessions. They stirred up compassion as onlookers watched residents suffer the trauma of lives turned upside down. Then they stirred many to action. Clearwater NF employees are part of the "Forest Service family." After the floods, Clearwater NF employees had two of their own to help: Brooks Beegle lost his home to mud slides; and Sandi McFarland's home and land suffered serious damage from floodwaters.

Employees at the Forest Supervisor's Office (SO) began to brainstorm ways to raise funds for Sandi and Brooks and their families to help them put their lives back together. The Clearwater NF Employee Association, a non-profit organization that deals with non-work-related employee matters, took on any and all fund raisers. Members Vicki Brown, Debbie Clark, Peggy Corder, Norm Schluessler and Carol Smith coordinated fund-raising activities and kept Forest Service employees across the region informed about the status of the McFarland and Beegle families. Contributions poured in from many other Forest Service units, in Idaho and Montana.

Employee Pete Ruppel came up with a fund-raising idea: "How about doing a T-shirt, something to do with the flood?". Co-workers Diane Brower and Lin Chamberlin developed a design and Gem Sign & Design of Grangeville finalized it.

Ten days after the floods hit, the T-shirts arrived. Sales didn't stop with Forest Service employees. When others saw the T-shirts, they wanted one. Clearwater NF Employee Association members decided to divide any profits from the sale of the T-shirts between the Clearwater County flood relief fund and Forest Service recipients, Brooks and Sandi.

The shirts went on sale in the SO in Orofino, at the flood emergency command center in the Clearwater County courthouse and at the National Guard headquarters. Employee Association members sold dozens of T-shirts daily. Two employees, Ken Rinehart and Ed Furnish, wore their shirts out and about and sold dozens more. Ken took 38 orders when he wore his T-shirt to his bowling league. Ed wore his when he reported to work at the flood control command center and sales skyrocketed.

Gem Sign & Design gave the association

a special price on the shirts. They charged for black and white printing but produced more expensive, colored printing: green, white and black on a gray shirt. A frog, its "arms" crossed in determination, sits on a rock. Above its head are the words, "We made it thru the mud of the '96 flood." Underneath the frog is the identifier: Orofino, Idaho.

To date, people have purchased more than 500 shirts. Carol Smith presented a \$1,427.78 check to the Clearwater County flood relief fund in mid-March. It represented half the T-shirt proceeds.

You can still get your tee shirt. Just contact Carol at (208)476-8222 to place your order. There are still flood victims who need help.

Jane Kollmeyer Tally Lake Ranger

Jane Kollmeyer, District Ranger, Fortine RD, Kootenai NF, has been appointed District Ranger of the Tally Lake RD, Flathead NF. She will report to her new assignment in Whitefish in mid-August.

Kollmeyer came to the Kootenai in 1992. During the last four years she has led a diverse program on the Fortine Ranger District. The district is located in the Northern Continental Divide Grizzly Bear Ecosystem, home of the Murphy Lake Wolf Pack and a large winter range for white-tailed and mule deer. The district also includes a proposed wilderness area and maintains 1/3 of the District in roadless area designation. During her term at the Fortine District the timber sell was 10 to 11 million board feet of timber annually. The district is a pilot in Project 615.

Kollmeyer's prior assignments included: acting Forest supervisor, Idaho Panhandle National Forests (IPNF); deputy district ranger, Wallace (Idaho) RD, IPNF; Fire Management Officer & Resource Staff at Happy Camp (California) RD, Klamath NF; forester in silviculture on the Ochoco NF, Snow Mtn. (Oregon) RD; Bureau of Land Management at Medford, Oregon; and Young Adult Conservation Corps camp director, Willamette NF, Blue River, Oregon. She has worked for private industry and the National Park Service. Kollmeyer holds a BS degree in forestry from the University of Michigan.

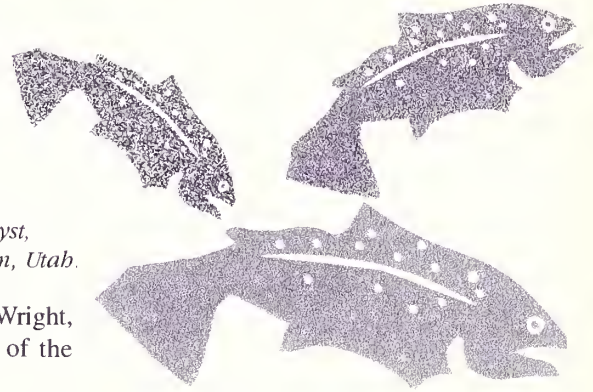
She and her family will continue to make their home in Whitefish, MT.



Jane Kollmeyer

7 Region 1-ers Recognized Merit Awards + Cash

by Kathie Hauser, Communications Analyst,
R-4 Planning, Appeals & Litigation, Ogden, Utah.



In recognition of their contributions in the Inland Native Fish Strategy (INFISH) to develop a comprehensive, unified aquatic strategy for Inland native fish species in eastern Oregon, eastern Washington, Idaho and western Montana, seven R-1 employees received Certificates of Merit and cash awards from Regional Forester Hal Salwasser last month.

David J. Wright,

Forest Supervisor, Idaho Panhandle NFs;
Team Leader Columbia River Basin
Inland Native Fish Study Team (INFISH)

Kerry Arneson,

writer/editor, Coeur d'Alene,
Idaho, Planning Team, Fernan RD,
Idaho Panhandle NFs.

Glen Blair,

wildlife biologist, Watershed, Ecology and
Biology, Grangeville, Idaho,
Nez Perce NF, SO.

David Cross,

fisheries biologist, Ecosystem Team,
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho,
Idaho Panhandle NFs, SO.

Rick Patten,

hydrologist, ecosystem team,
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho,
Idaho Panhandle NFs, SO.

Laird Robinson,

public affairs specialist, Missoula, MT,
Public Affairs Office, RO.

Frederick Stowell,

fisheries biologist,
Wildlife & Fisheries, RO.

At a February, 1995, meeting in Boise, regional foresters from the Northern, Inter-mountain and Pacific Northwest regions met with the regional director (Portland) of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USF&WS) to form an interagency team to develop a plan to protect habitat and populations of inland fish within the Columbia River Basin. The INFISH native fish team was

formed under the leadership of Dave Wright, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, supervisor of the Idaho Panhandle NFs.

The R-1, R-4 and R-6 regional foresters and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service identified the need to develop an inland native fish habitat management strategy to protect fish habitats, including the bull trout. Wright announced that the project charter was to gather information in order to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposal to protect habitat and populations of inland native fish within the Columbia River Basins. The EA will be used by the Forest Service in amending Regional Guides and Forest Plans to include interim direction in the form of riparian management objectives, standards and guidelines and monitoring requirements. Public comments were accepted until April 25, 1995.

The purpose of the EA was to provide interim direction to maintain management options until the Eastside and Upper Columbia River Basin Environmental Impact Statements are complete. The area already covered by PACFISH was excluded from the INFISH EA.

In July, 1995, the three regional foresters chose a combination of alternative 'D' and the testing of concepts in alternatives in alternative 'C' and 'E' in selected watersheds.

The EA provided the basis for establishing appropriate interim direction to protect habitat and populations of resident native fishes, outside of anadromous fish. The team accomplished the monumental task in four months.

The INFISH strategy identifies goals for healthy, functioning watershed, riparian areas, and associated fish habitats. Project and site-specific standards and guidelines are stated in detail for timber, roads, grazing, recreation resources, riparian areas, minerals, fire and fuels and land uses such as leases, permits, rights of way and easements,

as well as restoration of watersheds, fisheries and wildlife habitat on National Forest lands.

INFISH standards and guidelines provide benchmarks for management actions that reflect increased sensitivities and commitment to ecosystem management. The INFISH project was highly visible. Just prior to the release of the EA, former Idaho Governor Andrus hosted a symposium focusing on the best steps to preserve and protect the bull trout. At the symposium, governors of Idaho and Montana expressed their support for INFISH. The INFISH team's strategy sets a new standard for providing interim direction on a complex topic resulting in changes in ecosystem conditions over time. It reflects adaptive management and provides a functional and useful watershed-based plan to protect fisheries. The INFISH plan is now being implemented on 22 National Forests in three Forest Service regions.

For copies of the INFISH environmental assessment, telephone Kerry Arneson, planning team, Fernan RD, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Idaho Panhandle NFs, (208) 765-3021.

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BEAVERHEAD-DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

BOWEY, JAN rangeland management specialist, Madison RD, promotion to planner
 BRABENDER, JOE, forestry technician, Philipsburg RD promotion
 CONARD, BENJAMIN, wildlife biologist, Philipsburg RD, promotion
 EWING, MARGARET, district ranger, Butte RD, promotion.
 JENSEN, BARBARA, business management clerk, Wise River RD, promotion to business management assistant
 MORRIS, SANDRA, archeologist, SO, promotion
 SHAW, GARLAND, rangeland mgmt. specialist, Philipsburg RD, promotion to supervisory rangeland mgmt. specialist.
 SOMMERFELD, JUDY, supervisory budget analyst, Salmon & Challis NF's, R-2, temporary promotion to administrative officer, SO, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF's.
 SPRAUER, WILLIAM, forester, Philipsburg RD, promotion to supervisory forester

Reassignments & Transfers

AVEY, WILLIAM, forester, Wisdom RD, reassignment to Madison RD.
 HALL, ART, range conservationist, Conejos Peak RD, Rio Grande NF, reassignment to Wise River RD, supervisory forester (TMA).
 ROMERIO, CARMELA, student trainee-range, Jefferson RD, reassignment to Jarbidge RD, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, Region 4.

Correction to May Listings:

JOHNS, ROBERT, forestry technician, Butte RD, temporary promotion. (May NRN listed the name as JONES, ROBERT)

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST**AWARDS & PROMOTIONS**

AMOSS, JEFF, forester, SO, temporary promotion to supervisory biological scientist
 EVERS, BONNIE, office automation clerk, Darby RD, promoted to information receptionist
 ROSE, SUE, computer assistant, SO, promotion
 WIDDIFIELD, PATTE, purchasing agent, SO, promotion

NEW HIRES

KENISON, MARY, nurse practitioner, Anaconda JCC, career-conditional appointment

RETIREMENTS

LATRAY, MAXINE, cook, Anaconda JCC

CLEARWATER NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

GAUTHIER, CHRIS, supervisory forestry technician, promotion, North Fork RD
 GRUBB, STEPHANIE, GIS coordinator, promotion, to North Fork RD from Nez Perce NF
 MUNSON, STEVE, supervisory forestry technician, promotion, North Fork RD

Reassignments & Transfers

CARTER, STEVE, forestry technician, reassignment, Pierce RD from R-4, Payette NF
 SYTH, GARY, surveying technician, reassignment, Idaho Panhandle NF from SO

New Employees

BRIGHAM, STEPHEN, career conditional appointment, forestry technician, North Fork RD

CUSTER NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

MORIN, FOREST G., district ranger, Grand River RD, temporary promotion, Grand River & Medora RD

Reassignments & Transfers

HANSEN, KURT, rangeland management specialist, Sheyenne RD, reassignment, Medora RD

GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

SALINAS, FRED, District Ranger, Livingston Ranger District, promotion, Ochoco NF, Paulina, Oregon

HELENA NATIONAL FOREST**Reassignments/Transfers**

HILLARD, KEVIN, lead forestry technician, Helena RD, CC Appt
 JOHNSON, SEAN, lead forestry technician, Lincoln RD, CC Appt.
 WEITZ, TRINA, forestry technician, Helena RD, CC Appt.

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS**Awards & Promotions**

GIOVANELLI, DANIELA, promotion, support services supervisor, SO
 NIEMAN, JAMES, promotion, civil engineer, SO

New Employees

JONES, HOWARD, excepted Appointment, SCSEP enrollee warehouse St. Maries RD
 MILLER, LEROY, excepted appointment, scsep enrollee, grounds, St. Maries RD

Reassignments/Transfers

LAWS, MARY, reassignment, forester, St. Joe RD
 SYTH, GARY, Clearwater NF, forestry technician, reassignment, surveying technician, SO

Retirements

NYQUEST, CHARLES, RO, retirement, carto technician, SO
 WRIGHT, JOANN, SO, retirement, biological science technician, Nursery

KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

LAWRENCE, DANA, forester to information analyst, Cabinet RD,
 MEYER, LINDA, resource clerk to resource technician, Three Rivers RD
 TRIEPKE, JACK, botanist, Fortine RD, promotion

New Employees

BOGIE, PATRICIA, resource clerk, Libby RD,

Reassignments & Transfers

GORDAN, THOMAS, forestry technician, R9 Chequamegon to Libby RD, reassignment
 LEFEVER, STEVE, forester, Libby RD, to forestry technician, SO, reassignment

LEWIS & CLARK NATIONAL FOREST**Awards & Promotions**

CASPER, LINDA, forestry technician, Judith RD, promotion
 COATS, BOB, civil engineering technician, Judith RD, promotion
 MAYO, MAGGIE, accounting technician, SO, promotion

LOLO NATIONAL FOREST**Reassignments & Transfers**

WASIENKO-HOLLAND, MICHELE, Forestry Technician, Superior RD reassignment.

REGIONAL OFFICE**Awards & Promotions**

ANTONICH, PAT, forestry technician, RMLHW, promotion

In Memoriam

ARLENE BATEMAN, 66, died May 16 in Missoula. Born in Leeds, North Dakota, she moved to Missoula with her family in 1941. She graduated from Florence-Carlton High School in 1946. Mrs. Bateman held various positions with the Forest Service in the Northern Region headquarters in Missoula. After 30 years with the Forest Service, she retired in May of 1989.

KENNETH D. CONNER, 56, of Big Timber, MT, died May 25 from injuries sustained in an accident at the family cabin south of Darby, MT, on the Painted Rocks Reservoir. He attended schools in Victor, Hamilton, Alberton and earned an engineering degree from Montana State University. During the summer months, Conner worked as a Forest Service smokejumper and was a member of the team that rescued survivors of the 1959 Madison River Canyon earthquake. He worked for the Montana State Highway Department. In 1972, Kenneth and his wife, Bonnie (Bren) Conner started their own business, "Conner's Concrete", in Big Timber.

ARTHUR H. DAY, 73, died May 24 at the Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital in Hamilton, MT. Born in Watford City, N.D., Day was raised and educated in North Dakota and South Dakota. He served in the Army in World War II. Day began working for the Forest Service in 1965. He retired in 1975.

Deputy Chief Gray Reynolds Visits Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs



Deputy Chief Gray Reynolds (left) and Regional Forester Hal Salwasser stopped May 3 to talk with the Forest Supervisor and her staff on the Birch Creek road on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs, while Reynolds was on a Northern Region review, April 22-May 8.



Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs Supervisor Debbie Austin (left) explains the Forest Plan accomplishments to Regional Forester Hal Salwasser as Beaverhead-Deerlodge NFs Range Staff Officer Tom Heintz (right) looks on.

Photos by Jack de Golia, Public Affairs Officer, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF

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